

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 1-52 are pending, with claims 8-40, 42-46 and 48-52 having been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-7, 41 and 47 are currently under examination and have been rejected. Of these claims, claims 1, 41 and 47 are independent and claims 1-3, 41 and 47 are herein amended. No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-7, 41 and 47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. (USP 5,592,306) ("Watanabe").

The invention recited in claim 1 as amended includes as an inventive feature, *inter alia*, a display control section which controls a display section so as to distinguish a display being displayed on the display section in accordance with whether or not the set value set by the setting section is a set value which can be set in accordance with the setting instruction information supplied from the operating section.

The cited reference Watanabe does not disclose the display control section of the present invention as claimed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states, regarding claim 2, that Watanabe discloses a display control section which represents that the set value set by said setting section is not a set value which can be set in accordance with the setting instruction information supplied from said operating section (e.g., the out button in Figs., 3, 11, and 15). (See Office Action, at page 3.)

However, the out buttons of Watanabe are quite different from the display control section or the display section of the present invention. The out button 38 is provided for transferring the software within the ROM pack to the second memory circuit in the camera body (col. 3m lines 38-41). The out button 59 is provided for selecting photometry modes (col. 7, lines 44-46A). Accordingly, the out buttons of Watanabe are merely members which are manipulated by a user.

Watanabe discloses that the present photometry modes are displayed on the LCD 19 through the LCD driver 18 (col. 6, lines 44-47). Watanabe also discloses that a routine <Photometry> is a software program transferred from the ROM pack (col. 4, lines 13-17). However, Watanabe is silent about distinguishing a display displayed on the LCD 19 when the present photometry mode is not a photometry mode that has been originally provided in the camera body.

Accordingly, Watanabe does not teach or suggest distinguishing a display being displayed on the display section in accordance with whether or not the set value set by the setting section is a set value which can be set in accordance with the setting instruction information supplied from the operating section, as claimed.

The foregoing discussion as to patentability focuses on the invention as recited in amended claim 1. The inventions recited in claims 1, 41 and 47 are each characterized by a common inventive feature, namely that discussed above, and claims 41 and 47 are thus believed to be patentably distinct from the cited art for at least similar reasons as set forth with respect to claim 1, *supra*.

Dependent Claims

Applicant has not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicant submits that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as to why the independent claims from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed *supra*, the dependent claims are also allowable. Applicant however, reserves the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

As such, Watanabe does not teach or suggest the claimed invention, as the present invention as recited in independent claims 1, 41 and 47 and the claims depending therefrom, are clearly distinguishable from the cited art in at least the several respects stated above. The present invention as claimed is therefore neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of Watanabe, taken individually or in combination with any other art of record.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims as herein presented are allowable over the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, and that the respective rejections be withdrawn. Applicant further submits that the application is hereby placed in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application.

Applicant believes the petitioned extension of time to be sufficient and that no fees are required for this filing. However, should additional fees be due or should an additional extension of time be necessary to render this filing timely, such extension is hereby petitioned, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required

for this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4635.

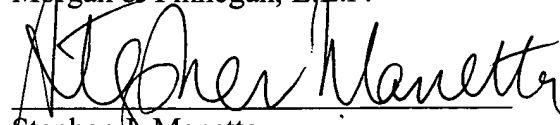
In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: August 23, 2004

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, New York 10281-2101
(212) 415-8700(Telephone)
(212) 415-8701(Telecopier)

Respectfully submitted,
Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.

By:


Stephen J. Manetta
Reg. No. 40,426